Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: Were there not law graduates as Inspectors of Police when this appointment was made?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: Yes. But this man is the senior-most law graduate and the vacancy was only for a few days.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan: Then if there is a long vacancy their claims would be considered?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: Claims of all people will be duly considered.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty: Am I to take it that this appointment was made not to disturb the field staff and for exigencies of service?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: That was the greatest consideration that prevailed with the Government.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A YOUNG MAN WHILE IN POLICE CUSTODY.

40. Mr. A. V. Moothedan: Will the Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to the sudden death, while in custody of the Police, of a young man at Chalakkudi, who was suspected to have committed theft of a bicycle as reported in the 'Malabar Mail', 'Gomathi', and 'Deepam' dated 10th Mithunam 1113?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: The occurrence has been registered as First Information Report No. 119/13 of Chalakkudi Police Station and investigation is proceeding.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan: As a result of the investigations have the Government been able to get at the truth?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: Yes.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan: May I know what is that?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: That a man who was a suspected character, who gave a false name, who came with a cycle which did not belong to him, took some poison and died.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty: May I know whether the occurrence is the theft of the cycle or the death of the man?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: The arrested man.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim: Will the hon'ble member inform the House whether this young man is a native of Chalakkudi?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: No. He said he was a native of Travancore. All possible attempts were made to identify the man in Madras, Travancore, etc. His finger print was taken and sent to all those places but we were informed that they cannot trace the identity of the man.

Mr. M. K. Devassy: May I know whether his photo was taken?

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Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: No.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar: Was not a post-mortem examination conducted?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: Yes.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar: May I know the result, please?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: The death is suspected to be due to white arsenic poisoning.

Mr. T. P. Poulose: May I know how long was he in the custody of the Police?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: From 12 A. M. to 6 A. M.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: Where was he buried?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: I don't know.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: Is it a fact that he was buried in the precincts of the police station?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: I don't know.

Mr. P. Achyuta Menon: Is it a fact that generally photos are taken of persons whose identity is not known?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: He said that he was a native of Travancore and that he had hired a cycle. So we had no reason to suspect that he had given a false name.

Dr. A. R. Menon: May I know whether the death was due to any method of police questioning?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: No, it was not.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan: May I know from where did he get the poison? Did the police make any personal enquiries?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: All possible effort was made, but to no effect.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar: Before a man is taken into custody is it not the practice of the police to search his person and find out whether he is possessed of anything objectionable?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: Yes. He was searched. But it was the Station Master who caught him and before he was taken into custody he swallowed the poison. When he was questioned as to what he was taking, by the Station Master, he said that he was taking soda powder to allay stomach ache.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar: Is the hon'ble member speaking from the evidence he has got from the investigation of the case?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: Yes.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar: What was the time that elapsed between his arrest and death?

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Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: He was arrested at 12-15 a. m. and he died at 7 a. m.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar: Was there no suspicion from the physical features or the act of taking poison that he was in a dangerous condition?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: He had vomited once or twice.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar: Was anything suspected, was the doctor sent for and was he examined?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: There was nothing to suspect in the beginning. Nobody thought that he had taken poison.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty: May I know who conducted enquiry into the cause of death?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: The District Magistrate, the local Magistrate, the Assistant Superintendent of Police and the Inspector.

Mr. Ismail Hajee Essa Sait: May I know who conducted the postmortem examination?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: The local doctor.

LAW GRADUATES IN POLICE DEPARTMENT.

41. **Mr. K. R. Viswambharan**: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the names, present appointments, and scale of pay of those in the Police Department, who are law graduates;

(*b*) what were their appointments and scale of pay in the Police Department previous to their appointments to their present posts?

Rao Sahib Mr. M. Narayana Menon: (*a*) and (*b*) Vide statement appended (*Appendix II.*)

RECRUITMENT—POLICE DEPARTMENT—PARTICULARS REGARDING.

42. **Mr. A. V. Moothedan**: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the last date of recruitment to the Police;

(*b*) how many persons had applied;

(*c*) what were their communities and qualifications;

(*d*) how many were selected and what were their communities?

Rao Sahib M. Narayana Menon: (*a*) 19—7—1113.

(*b*) 417.

(*c*) (1) Tamil Brahmins ... 1

(2) Other Hindus ... 9

(3) Do.

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